Sr. No.	Post	Name of the Bank	Date of Vacancy
3.	Chairman and Managing Director	National Housing Bank	4.9.2001
4.	Chairman and Managing Director	Syndicate Bank	1.2.2002
5.	Chairman and Managing Director	Vijaya Bank	1.2.2002
6.	Executive Director	Andhra Bank	1.6.2002
7.	Executive Director	Indian Overseas Bank	1.7.2002
8.	Managing Director	State Bank of India	1.7.2002

*The practice has been to fill only one post out of two.

Steps were initiated to fill these posts well in advance. However, procedural formalities involved in these appointments have taken relatively more time. All possible efforts are being made to fill up these vacant posts very soon.

Problems and difficulties faced by NRIs

*129. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "We are treated like any other visitor NRIs' which appeared in the Asian Age dated the 18th June, 2002;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to address the problems and difficulties being faced by the Non-Resident Indians as highlighted in the above-mentioned news-item?

THE MINISTER OFTOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government of India and the State Governments through various initiatives have been inviting investment by NRIs into India. Several packages and incentives for attracting NRI investment have

also been developed which are promoted amongst NRIs overseas through special missions and through the Embassies/High Commissions. A special brochure on investment opportunities in tourism has also been brought out and is distributed to the NRIs/Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs)/ other foreigners who are interested in investing in India through India Tourism Offices. Single Widow clearance facilities and investors' Escort services have also been provided by various States with a view to simplify the implementation procedure and for expediting NRIs investment proposals. Through the introduction of several progressive measures requirement for procedures has been greatly reduced for obtaining investment clearances.

With a view to project the importance that India attaches to NRIs/ PIOs 9th January has been earmarked to be celebrated annually as the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas. The first such function is scheduled to be held in 2003 where large number of NRIs/PIOs from all over the world are proposed to be invited to show case India and its investment potential.

Indo-German bilateral development cooperation programme

†*130. SHRI HARENDRA SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Germany has recently agreed to provide an assistance of Rupees 360 crore to India for various projects under the Germany-India Bilateral Development Cooperation Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the projects on which the said funds are likely to be spent?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINQH): (a) Yes, sir.

(b) and (c) The Government of Germany has extended a financial assistance of Deutsche Mark (DM) 179 Million (approx. Rs. 360 crores) for the implementation of the following projects in India under the Indo-German Bilateral Development cooperation for the year 2000 and 2001:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.